

**CONFIDENTIAL**CLASSIFICATION ~~SECRET-CONTROL/US OFFICIALS~~COUNTRY Czechoslovakia REPORTTOPIC SNB Border Battalion in Karlovy Vary

50X1-HUM

EVALUATION PLACE OBTAINED

DATE OF CONTENT

DATE OBTAINED 5 October 1950

REFERENCES

PAGES 2 ENCLOSURES (NO. & TYPE)

REMARKS

1. SNB Border Bn                      was stationed in Karlovy Vary (N 51/P 69) prior to 6 August 1950. The battalion was assigned to                      Prague, which was commanded by Major Duda, (fnu), who succeeded Lieutenant Colonel Kovar, (fnu).                      was directly subordinate to the Ministry of State Security. (1)

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2. The headquarters of the battalion was located in Karlovy Vary. The headquarters of the 2d Co and its 1st Plat were stationed in Cheb (N 51/P 27), the 2d Plat in Hazlov (N 51/P 28), including one squad in the customs office in Voianov (N 51/P 28), the 3d Plat in Lipa (N 51/P 28) and the 4th Plat in Muehlbach (N 51/P 27),                      (2)

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3. Lieutenant Colonel Flock, (fnu), had succeeded Major Galus, (fnu), as CO of the battalion. Captain Hrabak, (fnu), was deputy CO. Master Sergeant Krec, (fnu), commanded the 2d Co.

4. The battalion was organized into a headquarters and the 1st through 4th Cos. Having been reinforced by replacements it had more than 500 soldiers in early August 1950. The battalion was to receive still more personnel. (3)

5. The companies were armed with model 27 CZ pistols, signal pistols, model 48 submachine guns, and model 26 CZ light machine guns. Each platoon had two field telephones and one radio set. Three radio sets were in the stockroom.

6. The training progressed from basic drill to training at company level. A major four-day winter exercise was held on the Bohemian-Bavarian border in February 1950. An armored scout car was assigned to each SNB platoon for that exercise.

7. Border control was conducted by two-man patrols on the roads and by patrols, occasionally checking open border stretches. A password consisting of a two-digit number was issued daily, the guard challenging with the first figure and the person challenged answering with the second. Counterespionage in the border area was conducted exclusively by STB personnel in civilian clothes.

8. Besides the SNB border units there were special units, so-called preparedness units, surnamed Jerab in Jachymov (N 51/K 60), Jasan in Prague-Vrsovice, Hrad in Prague Hradcin and a special unit in Doupov (N 51/P 89). (4)

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9. SNB schools were known to be located in the Stefanie Barracks, Liberec (O 51/311), in Krnov (Jaegerndorf P 51/J 11), Bruntal (Freudental P 50/N 99) and Doupov. The training area at Doupov was used for demolition practice and AT defense training. An SNB school for women was in Nejdek (N 51/K 50).
10. Other SNB units, considerably smaller than battalions, guarded the borders facing the German Democratic Republic, Poland, the Carpatho-Ukraine and Hungary. These units were also subordinate to [redacted] Prague. 50X1-HUM

## [redacted] Comments.

- (1) [redacted] 9600 in Prague is the High Command of SNB Border Troops. 50X1-HUM
- (2) The data on the battalion check with previous reports. [redacted] 50X1-HUM  
[redacted] 50X1-HUM
- (3) The battalion was previously reported to consist of six companies located in Lazne Kynsvert, Cheb, As, Krasnice, Nejdek and Priecnice. [redacted] 50X1-HUM  
[redacted] This disposition of the battalion is given more credence than the information in the present report. 50X1-HUM
- (4) The SNB special units are known at the localities mentioned, except Doupov where only an SNB school was carried. Further information is required to establish whether Unit "Hrad" is independent or subordinate to Unit "Jasan".

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